

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG). The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG).

**"Closure appliance for reagent containers"**  
(1999/B001 – Ma 1206)

the specification of which is attached hereto / was filed

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material of the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application in which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) for which Priority is claimed:

**Germany** 199 17 646.9 of April 19, 1999

And I hereby appoint

Douglas B. Henderson, Reg. No. 20,291; Arthur S. Garrett, Reg. No. 20,338; Jerry D. Voight, Reg. No. 23,020; Herbert H. Mintz, Reg. No. 26,691; Thomas L. Irving, Reg. No. 28,619, Susan H. Griffen, Reg. No. 30,907; Richard B. Racine, Reg. No. 30,415; Thomas H. Jenkins, Reg. No. 30,857; Carol P. Einaudi, Reg. No. 32,220; Frank E. Caffoe, Reg. No. 18,621; M. Paul Barker, Reg. No. 32,013; Bryan C. Diner, Reg. No. 32,409; Thomas W. Banks, Reg. No. 32,719; Charles E. Van Horn, Reg. No. 40,266; and David S. Forman, Reg. No. 33,694.

all of the firm of FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, Reg. No. 22,540, my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to file continuation and divisional applications thereof, to receive the Patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office and in the Courts in connection therein, and specify that communications about the application are to be directed to the following correspondence address:

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✓ I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed Marburg, Germany, March 20, 2000

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